

# ACE NEWS

AMARILLO CITY EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Childhood Immunizations	2
Junior Lifeguard Program	3
Walk Across Texas Results	4
AECC Announces Awards	5
Safety Corner	7
Benefits Wellness	7
Ace on the Spot	8

## Amarillo International Rick Husband Airport "Airport of the Year"

By: Patrick Rhodes, Director of Aviation

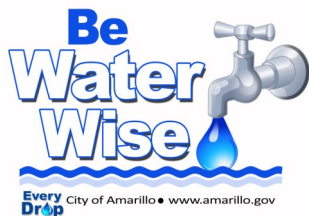
Recently, John Sides, the Federal Security Director for the West Texas Region of the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) announced that our airport had been selected as the West Texas Airport of the Year. The other airports considered were Lubbock, Midland, San Angelo and Abilene. The TSA selection was based on their evaluation of an airport's dedication to the pursuit of the agency's (TSA) core values of integrity, innovation, teamwork, competence, diversity, courtesy and respect.

Our airport security plan is near impossible to describe in a few words. Airport security includes equipment (electronic and mechanical), people and procedures. In the past three years, we have accomplished a great deal with our equipment upgrades associated with the terminal rehabilitation project.


(continued page 4)



Left to right: Mayor Paul Harpole, Jarrett Atkinson, City Manager; Patrick Rhodes, Director of Aviation; Bill Tone (TSA); Steven Picou, Deputy Director of Aviation; Gordon Forrest (TSA)



## Special points of Interest:

- Library Offers Summer Opportunities
- April Retirees
- Regeneration 2012 Project
- Swimming Pools — 
- High Noon on the Square begins June 6

## BUILDING SAFETY EARNS TOP HONOR



Left to right: Kevin Robinson, Scott McDonald and Randy Schuster were honored at the City Commission meeting on April 27, 2012 with the Construction Research Center's Building Official/Building Inspector of the Year Award

On March 8, 2012, the University of Texas-Arlington Construction Research Center (CRC) presented Mr. McDonald with the *Building Official of the Year Award*. The award honors outstanding managers in charge of construction code enforcement. Mr. McDonald has been the City's Building Official since 2007, and is responsible for the enforcement of construction codes through the building permit process. The CRC *Building Official of the Year* is one of the highest accolades given in the State of Texas, recognizing individuals which achieve a high degree of professionalism and commitment to the profession they serve. "The selection committee evaluated many qualified candidates throughout Texas," stated Lawrence Crow, CRC Committee representative. "In the past 25 years, Scott is among a select few - only 12 other building officials have received this distinguished honor."

### About the Department of Building Safety

The Department of Building Safety is responsible for enhancing safety in the built environment. This includes quality building inspection for residential and commercial construction, managing uncultivated vegetation, junk vehicles, dangerous buildings, debris abatement and other enforcement operations. The Department's mission is to enhance safety, abate nuisances and prevent hazards in the built environment where we live, work, worship, and play.

### About the Construction Research Center

The Construction Research Center was established by the University of Texas-Arlington as a vehicle for the development and dissemination of construction technology to the professional community. It is part of the Department of Civil Engineering within the College of Engineering. Learn more about the center at: <http://www.uta.edu/ce/crc/>

**Congratulations  
Airport and  
Building Safety!**

## Reminder

**the Accounting  
Department sells  
discount tickets for:**

**Wonderland  
Amusement Park  
(Opens May 25)**

**Splash Amarillo**

**Six Flags**

**Hurricane Harbor**

## CHILDHOOD IMMUNIZATIONS

BY: JAMIE MOORE, LVN

It is that time of year again when the children are getting out of school for the summer. Lots of fun, but, there is the next school year coming in August. Do not forget about childhood immunizations.

Children from the age of 4-6, before they start pre-school and Kindergarten may need to have a DTAP, MMR, Varicella (chicken pox), and Polio. The school nurse will let you know if your child is not

up-to-date.

Next are the young people going into the 7<sup>th</sup> grade. This age group is required to have TDAP, Meningitis, and Varicella (chicken pox) vaccine. If your child has had the chicken pox, they will not be required to take the Varicella vaccine.

Everyone, no matter what age attending college will be required to have a Meningitis vaccine if

they have not had one or do not have proof they have had one.

Please try and bring your immunization record with you when you come in for immunizations.

If you ever have any question about immunization you can always call me at the City Care Clinic. 378-9090.

## HISTORY OF IMMUNIZATIONS

BY: MENDOZA, HECTOR, ASSISTANT PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECTOR

In 1796, Edward Jenner, a British surgeon inoculated a small boy with cowpox. The theory at that time was to introduce bacteria that would cause a less severe disease in order to prevent a more deadly disease called smallpox. The technique used was relatively simple, scratch the skin and smear the bacteria in the wound. This was the beginning of preventing disease through vaccinations and in the 1970's the world would witness the eradication of smallpox disease.

Since Jenner's invention more vaccinations have been developed to control diseases that at one time affected many human beings. For example, prior to the 1950's many American children were affected by polio. Several epidemics of polio occurred around the country. The disease would paralyze children and require intensive rehabilitative care. Thankfully, Jonas Salk, the inventor of the polio vaccine gave us a way to control this disease and provide hope for parents who agonized over the crippling effects of polio. Hope was also given to future parents who witnessed friends and siblings suffer or die due to polio infections. A drastic decrease in the burden of illness and mortality can be seen over time, through the reporting of diseases such as; tetanus, mumps, measles, rubella, and Haemophilus Influenza-B. In fact, vaccination practices have become so efficient at preventing disease that few

vaccine preventable diseases are diagnosed by physicians. This is great news for the health of our children, the health of the community, and your own personal health. Being able to start life with a decreased possibility of getting a life threatening disease is a great accomplishment for the community and public health.

We have come a long way in the last 216 years but we are not done. In fact, vaccines continue to be developed for new diseases and conditions. Within the last ten years a few new vaccines have become available. These vaccines include: a vaccine to prevent cervical cancer, and combination vaccines that allow nurses to give multiple vaccines with one injection. With all the new developments it can be hard to keep up with revised schedules or new required vaccines. However, it is important for the health of your household.

Currently, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's, Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, recommends that children receive vaccinations at **birth, 2 months, 4 months, 6 months, 1 year, and 4 years**. Additional vaccines are required at **11 years** and upon entry to college. For more specific vaccine information please feel free to call either the Department of Public Health (378-6300) or the City Care Clinic (378-9090).

## SWIMMING POOLS—OPEN

### Southeast Pool

34th & Osage  
342-1564  
May 26-August 5

### Southwest Pool

48th & Bell  
359-2082  
May 26—August 12  
Closed May 29-June 2, July 4

### Thompson Park Pool

NE 24 & Dumas Highway  
381-7919

May 26-August 5  
Closed May 29-June 2

**Swim Lessons, Lap Swimming,  
Private Parties and  
Season Passes Available**

Don't forget the **Splash Pads and  
Wading Pools** located at:

Avondale, Benton, Bones Hooks,  
East, Eastridge, El Alamo, Forest  
Hill, Gene Howe, Glenwood, Hamlet,  
Lawndale, Memorial, Mesa Verde,

San Jacinto, Southlawn,  
Sunrise and Will Rogers Parks



### Center City of Amarillo

kicks off its 18th  
season of **High**

**Noon on the Square**  
at the Historical

Courthouse Square  
Potter County at Fifth  
Avenue and Taylor

Street on

Wednesday,

**June 6, 11:45 a.m. to**  
1p.m. with

*Big Texan Band and  
Mike Fuller*

**June 13**

*"Texas" and the Golden  
Spread Chorus*

**June 20**

*Andy Chase*

**June 27**

*Amarillo Symphony*

**July 11**

*A.J. Swope and the*

*Last Train Home*

**July 18**

*Yvonne Perea*

**July 25**

*Lone Star Ballet*

Music is free and lunch is  
available for \$6.00



# LIBRARY OFFERS SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES

By: Stacy Clopton Yates, Library Public Relations Coordinator

The Approach of Summer signals the beginning of two exciting programs at the Amarillo Public Library: **Summer Reading Club** for readers of all ages and **ESL Classes** for adults hoping to improve their English speaking skills.



**English as a Second Language Classes** are taught by Pat Mullin who served as the library's Youth Services Coordinator for more than two decades before taking on the role of ESL Coordinator. Mullin says there were at least 5 different native languages represented in the Spring term and he is looking forward to the Summer. "One of the great advantages of our program is that I can respond to requests for specific topics," says Mullin. "This Spring, students said they needed to learn more about health care and driving terms, so we did that. Some grant-funded programs don't have that kind of flexibility."

ESL Classes are free and open to adults 18 and older, but enrollment is required. Students interested in signing up for Summer classes must visit the Downtown Library on Wednesday, May 23 between 9 and 11 am OR on Thursday, May 24 between 5:30 and 7:30 pm. Classes will start June 4.

The theme for this year's Summer Reading Program is **Get a Clue at Your Library** and as usual, there are two ways for kids to be involved and have fun.

First, readers of all ages can register to **Read Books and Get Prizes!** Readers keep track of time spent reading on a log provided by the library. It takes 2 hours of reading for younger readers to get a prize. Older readers get a prize every 6 hours. The prizes include secret agent rubber duckies, moustaches, spy sunglasses, a magnifying glass, and of course, a free book! This year, a drawing will take place at each library location and five winners will receive a *Super Sleuth* kit as a grand prize!

The second part of Summer Reading Club is **Fun Stuff at the Library.** Every week there will be something fun at each of the five Amarillo Public Libraries. Events include a visit by a fire truck, a pirate day, a visit from the K-9 Unit, musician Steve Weeks, the Kwahadi Indian dancers, visits by APD's Officer Friendly, and a program with the Amarillo Zoo!

Readers of all ages may sign up at any one of the five libraries beginning Tuesday, May 29<sup>th</sup>, and receive a reading log and complete schedule of events.



## PARKS DEPARTMENT'S JUNIOR LIFEGUARD PROGRAM FOR AGES 11-15 YEARS

BY: JANICE YOUNG, AQUATICS SPECIALIST

The Parks & Recreation Department offers a Junior Lifeguard Program during the summer months for kids ages 11-15 years old. It is a great way to introduce students to lifesaving skills. The participants learn basic 1<sup>st</sup> aid, CPR and lifeguard rescues. During the class, participants will use the equipment our city lifeguards use in their training. The training for junior guards is the same as the city lifeguards learn just slightly modified. Part of the training includes shadow guarding. This means they are teamed up with one of our city guards and "shadow" them during pool operation hours so they gain experience watching the water, cleaning duties, and encouraging patrons to follow the pool rules.



**Parks & Recreation**

The benefits of signing up for junior lifeguard classes is learning how to save a life and the class helps them learn new skills to help them get a job when they turn 16 years old. Even though a junior lifeguard takes a class during the summer, annual recertification is necessary each year. In 2012, we have two new sessions offered June 19-21 at Southeast Pool and July 10-12 at Southwest Pool. Both class times are 4:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. and the cost is \$50.00 per participant. We also offer one renewal class on July 17 & 19 at Southwest Pool for ages 14-15 years who have completed a previous junior lifeguard class. The renewal class is \$35.00 per participant. The city offers payroll deduct for junior lifeguard participant fees to any city employee having a child who meets the requirement for the class.





## WALK ACROSS TEXAS WINNERS

BY: CINDY REYNOLDS, BENEFITS ADMINISTRATOR

Coffee Memorial  
will be at City Hall,  
Friday, June 8  
in Room 305  
from  
11:00 am - 3:00 pm

Donations are  
always needed so  
please mark your  
calendars.

Reminders will  
be sent.



Congratulations to the "Aviators" for walking 2071.11 miles during the first 8 week session of Walk Across Texas. The team members will each receive a \$25.00 gift card to Academy and 80 points toward their goal.

The second place finisher was "A Step Ahead" with 1628.31 miles and third place goes to the "APD Detectives" with 1504.97 miles. Great job! There were 10 teams who walked a total of 11,290.02 miles. That is walking coast to coast almost 4 times!

Back row, left to right – Steven Picou, Thomas Oscarsson  
Front row, left to right – Laurie Dale, Kiley Navarrete, Anna Scholl, Tafney Dunn-Edge, Drew Daunis and Tina Chester were on the team, but not available for the photo.

## Accolades

*The City of Amarillo received a very nice letter complimenting City employee, Randy Mitchell, Utility Worker, for his courteous and polite assistance with a citizen's water meter.*

**Way to GO Randy!**

**Thanks for a great job  
representing the  
City of Amarillo!**



## Regeneration 2012 Project



Larry Offerdahl, Director of Parks stated he was not surprised by the amount of volunteers.

*Left: Mayor Harpole assists with planting of trees*

*Right: Volunteers gather to begin working*



Regeneration 2012 Project in Thompson Park was held Saturday, April 21. There were 570 registered volunteers for this event. Total attendance was over 700 citizens. One major project sponsor donated \$50,000 for the purchase of 250 trees. Other projects included planting flower beds, painting a pool building, completing playground renovations and replacement of 25 new trash receptacles. Lunch was also provided.

## "Airport of the Year" (continued)

The people portion of the security program is relatively easy to describe in we have approximately 625 security badges issued to individuals whose primary work location is this airport complex. Of the 625 badges, approximately 55 are issued to individuals in the Aviation Department who are City of Amarillo employees. The Department of Homeland Security through the TSA establishes the rules, regulations and procedures that establish how our security plan is written. The Airport is seldom, if ever, given any background information on these items that is not readily available in the public media. Many times, we believe that the requirements are not applicable to our operations and/or the traveling public. When those situations arose, we had discussions with TSA in an attempt to reach a solution that addressed our concerns and met the TSA requirements.

Why were we selected? The specific TSA evaluation is not available to us, but in our opinion, the three categories that separated us from the other airports would be teamwork, courtesy and respect. Teamwork is a catch word that is arguably over used. During the last two to three years, teamwork was required in this airport operation like no other in West Texas. Terminal tenants, passengers, and anyone else who entered the terminal were challenged with uncomfortable heating and cooling conditions, dust, noise and relocations as part of the terminal building construction activities. The conditions created many opportunities for conflict and discourteous behavior. For the most part, things remained courteous and positive especially between TSA, the airlines and the Airport.

The last area is respect. As previously mentioned, we did not always agree with the mandated changes and directions for TSA reference the handling of airport security procedures. Most of the conflicts were related to the handling of airline passengers with occasional conflicts over Airport Police activities. We were able to have a respectful conversation with TSA each and every time. The conversations did not always get the results that we wanted, but we were successful many times in getting what we wanted or agreeing to a compromise that was beneficial to airport operations and more importantly, the travelers using the airport.

We are pleased that TSA selected our Airport for this recognition. It is always rewarding to have formal acknowledgement of a job well done. In this case, many people earned and deserved this acknowledgement. We look forward to strengthening this partnership as we face future challenges with the same degree of courtesy and respect demonstrated in past years.

## AECC Announces Awards

As part of National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week (NPSTW), the Amarillo Emergency Communications Center hosted an Awards Ceremony Wednesday, April 11 in which several people were recognized. One of the awards presented was the Stork Award, given to Crystal Salazar, an Emergency Communications Specialist who was instrumental in the delivery of a baby girl whose parents couldn't quite make it to the hospital in time. George Rasco and Ron Bankhead were recognized with the Citizen Hero Award as well for calling 911 about a 70-year-old man trapped under a vehicle.

Also recognized with the **Silent Hero Award** was Debbie Philips, Emergency Communications Specialist.

"Debbie is highly skilled, has high expectations for herself, is dedicated, and pleasant to work with," says Judith Weshinskey-Price, Emergency Communications Manager. "In addition to her dedication to both her position with us and her full time employer, she is dedicated to the profession of 911 and public safety. Debbie is an overall great communicator and we feel lucky to have her as an employee."

Several AECC employees have also been nominated for state and national awards, including: **APCO National Manager of the Year** – Terry Bavousett, AECC Assistant Manager; **NENA Telecommunicator of the Year** – Alex

Berry, Emergency Communications Specialist; **NENA Trainer of the Year** – Lou Ann Humphrey, Emergency Communications Specialist; **NICE Systems PSAP's Finest Telecommunicator of the Year** – Georgeanna Flores, Emergency Communications Specialist; **Texas APCO Supervisor of the Year** – Troy Lightsey, Senior Supervisor; **APCO National Trainer of the Year** – Robin Malatesta-Young, Emergency Communications Specialist; **APCO National Telecommunicator of the Year** – Cassandra Perez, Emergency Communications Specialist; **Texas APCO Telecommunicator of the Year** – Tiffany Shepherd, Emergency Communications Specialist; **APCO National Supervisor of the Year** – Lisa Tijerina, Senior Supervisor; **APCO International TEAM Award** – Michelle Anderson, Gloria Johnson, Jessica Martinez, Monica McKinney and Mary Vanek – all Emergency Communications Specialists.

The purpose of National Telecommunicators Week and Awards Ceremony is to recognize the dedicated professionals that staff emergency communications centers across the country. It gives Americans the opportunity to thank 9-1-1 call takers, dispatchers, communications staff trainers, supervisors and managers of communications centers, and other telecommunications staff across the country who work hard every day to protect our communities.



Georgeanna Flores, ECS



Bekki McQuay, Training/QA and  
Tiffany Shepherd, ECS



Judith Weshinskey-Price and  
Troy Lightsey, Senior Supervisor



Mayor Paul Harpole gave the  
welcome address



Kaye-Lynn DeCeuster, ECS presenting a  
citizen award to a caller who went above  
and beyond

**CON  
GRAT  
ULAT  
IONS!**

# WELCOME...

Name	Title	Department
Kinten Johnson	Communications Technician	Communications
Stephanie Coggins	Accountant III	Accounting
Melanie Cleveland	Administrative Technician	Payroll
Carol Hill	Asst Purchasing Agent	Purchasing
Bruce Champlin	Utility Worker	Street
Andrew Romero	Utility Worker	Street
Judy Jenkins	Administrative Assistant 1	Police Civilian Personnel
Stephanie Morrison	Administrative Assistant 1	Police Civilian Personnel
Generva Gonzales	Administrative Assistant 1	Public Health
Fidencio Pena Jr.	Utility Worker	Water Distribution
Derek Streater	Utility Worker	Wastewater Collection
Wanda Nelson	IT Analyst	IT Systems
Chelsea Bowen	Admin Assistant -hourly	Municipal Court
Miguel Lozano	Admin Assistant -hourly	Municipal Court
Josh Carrillo	Utility Worker-hourly	Street
Christopher Melton	Utility Worker-hourly	Solid Waste Collection
Theodore Gerth	Utility Worker-hourly	Solid Waste Disposal
Matthew Goodman	Utility Worker-hourly	Solid Waste Disposal
Michael Tschundy	School Crossing Guard	Traffic Administration
Neil Nevarez	School Crossing Guard	Traffic Administration
David Haws	Utility Worker-hourly	Traffic Field Operations
Charles Washington	Utility Worker-hourly	Comanche Trail Golf Course
Kelsey Preston	Lesson Coordinator	Parks & Recreation
Sara Luikart	Lesson Coordinator	Parks & Recreation
Christopher Grepo	Lesson Coordinator	Parks & Recreation
Terry Mathes	Swimming Pool Manger	Parks & Recreation
Robert Holeman	Swimming Pool Manger	Parks & Recreation
Danielle Kiper	Swimming Pool Manger	Parks & Recreation
Dirvaun Penns	Recreation Specialist	Parks & Recreation
Aysa Hood	Recreation Specialist	Parks & Recreation
Derrick Saldivar	Recreation Leader	Parks & Recreation
Deandra Thomas	District Supervisor	Parks & Recreation
LaToya Evans	District Supervisor	Parks & Recreation
Haley Stoddard	District Supervisor	Parks & Recreation
Tommi Stovall	Recreation Leader	Parks & Recreation
Rachel Cunningham	Program Coordinator	Parks & Recreation
Renee Balderrama	Account Clerk -hourly	Parks & Recreation
Robert Enriquez	Utility Worker-hourly	Park Maintenance
Patrick Washington	Utility Worker -hourly	Park Maintenance
Michelle Sustaita	Utility Worker-hourly	Park Maintenance
Wesley Meyer	Utility Worker-hourly	Park Maintenance
Alexandria Thomas	Concession Worker-hourly	Zoo
Stephanie Baucom	Admin Assistant -hourly	Athletic Administration
Cody Rankin	Messenger	Fire Civilian Personnel
Jessica Soza	Nutritionist II -hourly	WIC Administration
Candace McConnell	Utility Worker-hourly	Water Transmission
Tracie Grenier	Admin Assistant -hourly	Drainage Utility



## Congratulations

### April Retirees

**Danny Reid** – 10 years  
Surface Water Treatment

**Rickie Hastie** – 13 years  
Amarillo International Rick  
Husband Airport

**David Abraham** – 33 years  
Amarillo Police Department

**Eddie Stallings** – 33 years  
Amarillo Police Department

## Promotions/Transfers

OLD		NEW	
Name	Title	Department	Department
Cindy Wallace	Admin Assistant-hourly	Library	Library
Clara Mireles	Admin Assistant-hourly	Municipal Court	Municipal Court
Jessie Donald	Transfer Station Operator-hrly	Solid Waste Disposal	Solid Waste Disposal
Taylor Poynor	Utility Worker-hourly	Park Maintenance	Wastewater Collection
Lou A Humphrey	Emergency Comms Specialist	AECC	AECC
Raul DeLaCerta	Utility Worker	Solid Waste Collect.	Solid Waste Disposal
Michael Williams	Police Officer	Police	Police
Greg Aguirre	Park Technician II	Park Maintenance	Park Maintenance
Elana Gann	Utility Worker-hourly	Zoo	Park Maintenance
Nathan Nurek	Firefighter	Fire	Fire
Michael Stennett	Driver	Fire	Fire
Amber Smallwood	Administrative Assistant 1	Library	Director of Utilities
Christian Nickerson	Utility Worker	Water Distribution	Water Distribution
Michael Schoenberg	Odor Control Technician	Water Distribution	Wastewater Collection



## Employee Milestones

NAME	TITLE	DEPARTMENT	NUMBER OF YEARS
DAVIS JOHN A	FIRE LIEUTENANT	FIRE OPERATIONS	25
KROGER CAROLE L	FIRE CAPTAIN	FIRE OPERATIONS	25
SHERRILL ROBERT L	FIRE DRIVER	FIRE OPERATIONS	25
RILES ZETTA M	LIBRARIAN II	LIBRARY	25
KENNEDY ROY L	PARK MAINTENANCE MECHANIC II	PARK MAINTENANCE	25
ELLIOTT ROBERT A	COMM IMPROVEMENT INSPECTOR	BUILDING SAFETY	15
GIBBS RONALD M	ELECTRICIAN II	FACILITIES MAINTENANCE	15
WEBB SIDNEY	PAINT & BODY REPAIRER	MUNICIPAL GARAGE OPERATIONS	15
BROCKMAN PAUL H	PARK FOREPERSON I	PARK MAINTENANCE	15
FLORES HENRY	CONCRETE FINISHER	STREET DEPARTMENT	15
GARCIA MANUEL D	W/S FOREPERSON 1	WATER DISTRIBUTION	15
JACKSON JASON C	FIRE DRIVER	FIRE OPERATIONS	10
PERDUE MICHAEL L	FIRE DRIVER	FIRE OPERATIONS	10
WOOLSEY CASEY GLENN	FIRE DRIVER	FIRE OPERATIONS	10
HAM LEONARD LEWIS	ASST. WASTEWATER TREATMENT SUP	HOLLYWOOD ROAD WASTE WATER TREATMENT	10
AUTREY EMMETT A	DIRECTOR OF UTILITIES	DIRECTOR OF UTILITIES	5
RANGEL ISAAC	ENGINEERING ASSISTANT II	ENGINEERING	5
HOLLIS ROBERT	MECHANIC I	MUNICIPAL GARAGE OPERATIONS	5
CHAMPION TRAVIS	PARK MAINTENANCE MECHANIC	PARK MAINTENANCE	5
NIMMO JANICE C	UTILITY WORKER	PARK MAINTENANCE	5
KING GAVIN	POLICE OFFICER	POLICE	5
NEAL RICHARD	RESIDENTIAL EQUIPMENT OPERATOR	SOLID WASTE COLLECTION	5
PARKER DEBRA	ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT I	UTILITIES OFFICE	5
CARRERA SALVADOR	WATER & SEWER SUPERVISOR I	WASTE WATER COLLECTION	5



## SAFETY CORNER

BY: CHARLIE SANCHEZ, SAFETY MANAGER

City of Amarillo



FOR SAFETY

We have all seen TV shows set in hospitals where the patient's heart monitor is beeping along and all of a sudden it quits and the nurse yells out "Emergency, the patient has flat lined!" The doctor rushes in, grabs a couple of paddles and he yells "CLEAR" and zaps the patient's chest and in most cases, the monitor starts beeping again.

Using an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) is similar but without the drama of TV. The training does not have to be that dramatic, but having to use an AED would be quite an experience. AED's have become increasingly prevalent in the workplace, public buildings and schools. After you turn on the machine, it directs you to place the pads on the patient's chest. If a shock is required, the machine will instruct you to



Ronnie Okerson Signal Tech I

Training was conducted for City of Amarillo employees in April on use and practical hands-on experience with an AED and in conjunction with Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) skills. Each student had to demonstrate to the instructors their classroom knowledge, hands-on use of the AED, the placing of defibrillator pads,

stand clear of the patient and to press the shock button. The shock will be applied and hopefully the heart will resume its normal rhythm.

and the proper ratio of chest compression versus rescue breathing. Rescue breathing was practiced on replica adult half body mannequins and infant mannequins. After the training session, students were assessed on their proficiency skills and received their completion card.

Overcoming the fear of using an AED is one of the obstacles that trainers face. We all have to admit that shocking someone's heart is not an everyday occurrence, which is why good training is so important. Future AED/CPR training classes will be scheduled throughout the remainder of the year.

## BENEFITS—WELLNESS

BY: CINDY REYNOLDS, BENEFITS ADMINISTRATOR

**Part-time employees who work 1000+ hours a year and are in TMRS can pay \$10.00 per pay period and go to City Care Clinic.** There is a 90-day waiting period before an employee is eligible for the benefit.

If you are interested in taking advantage of this benefit, you may come to the Benefits office in the basement of City Hall and complete an enrollment form.

### Good News —

Listed are three new providers who are now accepting payroll deductions for City of Amarillo Group Health Plan members:

**Care Express**  
2701 S. Georgia  
350-3000  
8:00 AM – 8 PM Monday-Friday  
9:00 AM – 5 PM Saturday  
10:00 AM – 5 PM Sunday  
Walk-Ins Available

**Cindy Hutson, DO**  
2701 S. Georgia  
351-2000  
8:00 AM – 5:00 PM Monday-Friday  
By appointment only

**Living Well Express Care**  
45<sup>th</sup> & Bell Inside United Supermarket  
355-2900  
8:00 AM – 7:00 PM Monday-Friday  
8:00 AM – 6:00 PM Saturday and Sunday  
Walk-Ins Available

**Send your comments,  
suggestions and ideas to:**

**City Secretary's Office  
City Hall  
509 Southeast 7th Avenue,  
Room 303**

**Phone:  
(806) 378-3014**

**Fax:  
(806) 378-9394**

**Email:  
frances.hibbs@amarillo.gov**

**We're on the Web!**

**See us at:  
www.amarillo.gov**

## **CITY OF AMARILLO**

P. O. Box 1971  
Amarillo, TX 79105-1971

**www.amarillo.gov**

**Send us your email  
address to save on  
printing and postage**

**Send us your  
Graduation  
announcements  
and information  
for the next issue  
of the  
ACE Newsletter**



## **ACE ON THE SPOT—**

### **ROSEMARY ROBINSON**

Where were you on February 2, 1973? Rosemary Robinson knows where she was. It was her first day of work as a Library Clerk at the City of Amarillo. The Library was located in the building that houses the Chamber of Commerce now. It was Rosemary's first full-time job after graduating with a BBA from WT. While working as a part-time receptionist at an employment agency the library position became available. A few months into the job, she was notified that the library system was expanding, and getting ready to open new branches, so they were eliminating her position.

Rosemary's cousin worked in Narcotics for the APD and she was leaving so Rosemary applied for the job. Someone else was hired who changed their mind about the position and Rosemary applied and the job was hers. That was in July 1973 and she is still there 39 years later. She says that her job is interesting and the work is diverse so she feels challenged every day. When narcotic arrests take place, it's her job to get the paperwork together for the filing Sergeant. She runs criminal histories and prepares all the narcotic cases, including search warrants and creates files for each case. Submission forms are typed

and records kept of all evidence sent to the DPS lab. She remembers when all of this was done by hand and says the biggest change that has taken place in her job over all this time is the advent of computers and the availability of them as well as other technology.

Rosemary says the best thing about working for the City of Amarillo is that it is a stable organization. "It's always going to be here. One area may downsize while another one grows, but the City is still around." She also appreciates the insurance and retirement, now, but didn't think about them at all when looking for that job while in college. "I didn't come in thinking I would stay here this long but my job is interesting and different every day," she said.

When asked if she could give any new City employees any advice, she said she would encourage them to look around if they don't think their job is interesting or enjoyable. Give the City a chance and stick with it. Move to another department if you want a change, but it is well worth staying. The grass is not always greener on the other

side of the fence. In the 1980's during the oil-boom, friends encouraged her to go to work for an oil company and follow the money, but she said, "Look where they are now. The police department is still here."

Rosemary plays volleyball, softball and bowls regularly, believing that if you quit moving you start locking down. Even though she is the employee with the longest tenure at the City of Amarillo, she has no plans to retire anytime soon.

Rosemary grew up in McLean, Texas and graduated from high school there. She is a very active member of the Sorooptimist Club of Amarillo, which is a professional women's service club, which improves the lives of women and girls. She holds the position of chairperson of the Service Committee. She is also on the Supervisory Committee of the City Federal Credit Union. She started working for the City at the age of 5.

